



CITY OF CHADRON

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FILED/ACCEPTED

MAY 14 2007

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

May 7, 2007

Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: WC Docket No. 02-60 (Rural Health Care Mechanism Pilot Program)

Dear Office of the Secretary:

As City **Manager** of Chadron, Nebraska I am sending this written request in support of the **Rural** Nebraska Healthcare Network (RNHN). The Chadron Community Hospital is a member of the RNHN and I **am** very proud to support this collaborative team of Health Care Providers.

The Panhandle of Nebraska is an **amazing** place to live and work, however the distances that hinder our Medical communities **are** a challenge of great magnitude. Technology **can** provide solace from the burden of miles that separate patients and health providers. The RNHN has learned to dream of the opportunities to enhance the needs of the rural hospitals and outreach providers but financially is very limited.

The future of medical services in rural areas is about technology, unfortunately technology is very cost prohibitive, with the opportunity to be funded through this Pilot Program the RNHN can propel itself into the **future** while **securing** the best medical advances for the over 90,000 residents of the Panhandle.

If you could visit the Western Nebraska Panhandle and experience the hardships distances play when health care is an issue. It is very hard to **conjure** up a vision of over 15,000 **square** miles of very isolated rural areas, and someone needing medical attention and the hardships of traveling where you need to be to find **that** medical help.

This **fiber** connectivity would allow the hospitals **within** the RNHN and the states surrounding to benefit greatly by this **connectivity**. This is what will give the hospitals a chance to survive **and** also to grow with the needs of the residents of the Panhandle.

Thank you for promoting such a fine **program** for rural health care, I know the RNHN would be the fit for this **financial** support through the Federal Communications Commission.

Sincerely,

Sandra Powell  
City **Manager**  
Chadron, Nebraska

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List ABCDE

CC: Honorable Kevin J. Martin  
Honorable Michael J. Copps

Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein

Honorable ~~Deborah~~ Taylor Tate

Honorable Robert M. McDowell

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